



# Sailed into Unknown and Found America

THEY SAW IT FIRST. No. 7. By C. N. DORAN

May 10th, 1497, he set sail in a vessel from Cadiz. The truth was that he didn't know where he would land.

He announced that he intended to sail to "the other side of the world," and called on volunteers to follow.

**Vespucci did not know, but he was then in the Pacific Ocean. He sailed for eight hundred and seventy leagues, going north all the time.**

Occasionally the boats were got out and a company dispatched to the land for signs of provisions. They found water in rivers, fish, and some wild animals, and these saved them from starvation.

They passed the beautiful shores of California, and reached British Columbia, although the land was nameless in those days. Here

He had a strange life, but he for the first time they saw people. The natives at first were hostile, and threatened Vespucci's men with spears and arrows, but by making friendly gestures the Spaniards were able to make themselves understood in some way.

From the natives they got American continent first, however, ships for the King of Spain, and water and fuel for their cooking, gave his name to it. Why should to furnish the second expedition not Columbus have called the continent by his own name? He managed to get the King

**Amerigo Vespucci was the to cancel the monopoly, and on**

food of these people was "huge great oxen," which was probably the buffaloes of North America.

Owing to quarrels Vespucci was compelled to re-embark as quickly as possible, although his ship was in no state to continue the voyage. A council was held and it was decided that since they did not know exactly where they were, the best thing would be to retrace their travels.

The journey home to Spain was fraught with perils. Heavy storms so hammered the ship that she was often in danger of sinking, and

prayers were daily made for their

safe homecoming.

When Vespucci returned to Spain he looked an old man, so severe had been the hardships upon him.

His crew were in similar state. When they told of their discovery of a "great land" they were disbelieved; and even when they showed some of the proofs in the shape of gold and silver and strange plants, and a few animals' carcasses, the story they told was regarded as a romance.

It is a strange fact that little of the original story is to-day available. Records were said to be destroyed by enemies in Spain.

All that remains of that famous

voyage to America from Spain by way of the Pacific is the name which Amerigo Vespucci gave to the continent which he saw first of all men of the Western civilisation.

## USELESS EUSTACE



"About this income tax demand. Be reasonable! You can't expect the half-penny and the gingerbread, y'know. I've put all my money into war savings!"

mean?

"Eadige synd tha lithan."  
5. How many African states are independent? Name them.  
6. Which of the following is an intruder, and why?  
43, 21, 34, 37, 26, 27, 32, 46.

Answers to Quiz  
in No. 608

1. Tutonag is a spice, Chinese alloy, town in the Balkans, Derby winner, backbiting?
2. Is a Bluerex a king in the direct line of succession? If not, what?
3. Who is called the Father of English Poetry?
4. In what language is the following, and what does it Queen's name; others are.
5. Fish.
- 229.
3. Lewis Stone.
4. 61.
5. DeFoe, who wrote "Robinson Crusoe."
6. Joan is not an English Queen's name; others are.

## Alex Crack

Wife: "Yesterday I engage a new maid and to-day you kiss her!"

Husband: "Sorry, darling; I thought, in the dark, it was the old one."

## BEELZEBUB JONES



## BELINDA



## POPEYE



**IT** is one of the paradoxes of history that the man who really discovered the American continent has never received all the credit. People still believe that Columbus opened up the New World.

What Columbus really did was to find the West Indies and several of the islands of the Virgins and the Antilles.

The man who really saw the American continent first, however, ships for the King of Spain, and water and fuel for their cooking, gave his name to it. Why should to furnish the second expedition not Columbus have called the continent by his own name?

**Amerigo Vespucci was the to cancel the monopoly, and on**

**They also found that the main**

## I get around RON RICHARDS' COLUMN

**T**HE area covered by the diocese of Rochester shares with that of London, Southwark and Canterbury the doubtful privilege of having received a more prolonged period of attention from the enemy than any other part of England. The Bishop was overheard to have referred to himself as "the Bishop of Bomb Alley."

Along the northern half of the diocese stretches a populous belt, half industrial, half residential, and here the effect of enemy action has been most severely felt. Indeed, the area of most concentrated "flying bomb" attacks lies within the diocese.

Great suffering has been caused to the people, and yet they have remained steadfast and cheerful through it all. The part of the diocese which lies within the Metropolitan area has had 41 out of a total of 59 churches damaged; and of these, at least 13 are quite unusable. Since June of 1944 over 106 churches, 54 vicarages, 32 schools and 32 other church buildings have been damaged, while the total war damage claims exceed 500. All this has happened in a diocese of 221 parishes.



**T**HE consequences for Church life and worship are extremely serious. Repairing damage, however, will not be the only work to be done after the war. Large new housing areas and town planning schemes which will be located within the diocese are already coming into being. This will raise the demand for new parishes, new churches, and increased man-power.

In addition to other needs common to all dioceses, it has been decided to establish a retreat house and conference centre in the cathedral city of Rochester.

To meet all these needs the Bishop has launched a million-pound fund and has called upon the diocese for at least £500,000 of new money to be raised during the next ten to fourteen years. It is a great task, but it is no less than the magnitude and urgency of the need. It must be achieved if the Church in West Kent is to play its part in the life of the people.

## WANGLING WORDS—548

1. Behead a smell and get a fish.
2. In the following proverb both the words and the letters in them have been shuffled. What is it?—*Vecto slofk asripe avin.*
3. What island off Canada has O for the exact middle of its name?
4. The two missing words contain the same letters in different order: *The green-grocer has no plums for sale, but he can* — — — — —

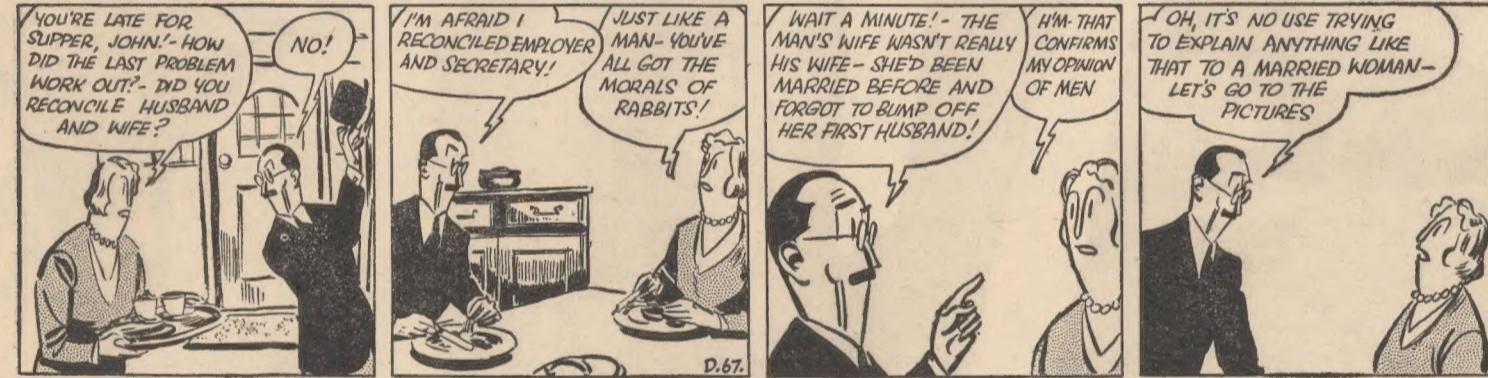
### Answers to Wangling Words—No. 547

1. Ram.
2. Out of debt, out of danger.
3. Valencia.
4. Stop pots.

## JANE



## RUGGLES



## GARTH



## JUST JAKE



## Would You Take This Fortune?

THERE is a fortune lying in and became a bishop, but he Harum," he died soon after, book brought him without a California bank and co. never took up the duties. When the committee of church officials went to his house to claim it, he told them of his appointment. This is not fiction, but hard to believe.

The amount of that fortune is a million dollars. Its rightful owner said he didn't claim it because of a strange "curse" on the family.

He is the sole surviving member of the Westcotts, who amassed a fortune in various businesses—and all of them died violent deaths, so mysterious and strange that it became a saying that the family bore a curse.

Dr. Amos Westcott, well known in medical circles, one of the first men to introduce anaesthesia into dentistry, was the first to die.

When he was at the height of his career he died mysteriously from the very drug he had helped to perfect to relieve pain.

The fortune passed to his brother, who was an esteemed clergyman. He was a scholar

and left the £100,000 that he touched a penny.

Now the augmented fortune went to his two other children, Philip and a daughter, Mrs. Victor Morawetz. The latter, hoping to avoid family tragedies, went to California.

She died on the train, and

friends who came to meet her at Los Angeles met her body in a coffin.

sought by lawyers so that they could hand over the fortune. They advertised for him, but never found him.

Instead, they got a letter which said: "I know that within twelve months of my acceptance of the fortune I shall die. Fate has been remorseless to my family. I am in daily fear of becoming the next victim. Therefore I have changed my name and have fled the country."

And that was the last that was ever heard of him. Where he went nobody knows. But he never took the fortune, which still remains in the bank of California.

All this raises the question whether curses actually follow families. Would you take the fortune if you were the Westcott heir?

MARCUS DELINGER.

### USELESS EUSTACE



"Private Pilbeam overslept this mornin', Sarge. So I'm mindin' 'is place for 'im!"

## CROSSWORD CORNER

### CLUES ACROSS.

2 White wine.

9 Hate.

10 Mountain top.

13 Sloped.

14 Plants.

15 Amount of

land.

17 Standard.

18 Pointer.

19 Soft cake.

21 Famous

Marshal.

22 Notes.

25 Bird.

26 Counters.

28 Sleeved

garment.

29 Laths.

32 Repulse.

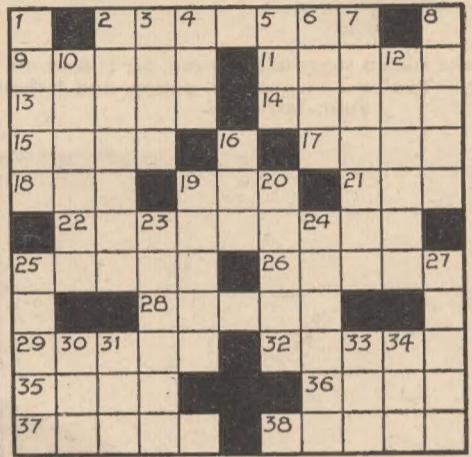
35 Work.

36 Spree.

37 Bird.

38 Cow-houses.

BEAM BASALT  
UNRAVEL CAR  
SLIT ALBINO  
HIATUS EDDY  
VENTER A  
HEARD VENUS  
END IRATE T  
AJADED TWO  
PAUL BEATEN  
ENRAGE CLAY  
DYES LATER



### CLUES DOWN.

1 Vegetable dish. 2 Horse. 3 Whetstone. 4 Skill. 5 London's governors. 6 Persia. 7 Spaces of time. 8 Thwart at golf. 9 Suit. 10 Irregular line. 11 Chinchilla. 12 Extra pay. 13 Lowest point. 14 Variegate. 15 Satisfaction. 16 Speed. 17 Is sullen. 18 Lump of wood. 19 Ventilate. 20 Lowest. 21 Before.

## TRUE OR FALSE

### Do People Get Moonstruck?

THE prevalence of the idea that the moon is responsible for madness is shown in the word "lunatic," derived from the Latin for moon. Periodically one reads of people attributing their violent or unnatural behaviour to the moon.

"He is ruled by the moon," a solicitor pleaded not long ago for a client charged with stealing.

"He became queer at the changes in the moon," a wife said of her husband who drowned himself.

Some years ago, when a man was attacking girls in Surrey, a chief constable stated publicly that the period of danger was at the new moon, as the man "had fits of blood-lust coinciding with different phases of the moon."

Is the idea true or false? Some astronomers would probably say that the moon could have no serious effect on men. But to-day, many are not quite so sure as they would have been perhaps forty years ago.

It has been shown that herrings move in accordance with the moon, and that oysters spawn in accordance with the moon's position. One marine worm in the tropics mates only once a year, at the time of the first full moon in October.

The moon changes the weight of things on the earth by its pull when it moves nearer or further away—but, of course, this is nothing to do with its phases.

The "anthroposopists" believe that the moon has a profound effect upon the germination and growth of plants, although many, and indeed most, scientific horticulturists say this is all "moonshine."

It is difficult to say whether being "moonstruck" is true or false. Perhaps the truth is that it is not any invisible force of the moon that produces the effect in human beings, but that some not very well balanced ones are influenced by suggestion. In many cases a simpler explanation than "moonstruck" is possible.

J. M. Michaelson

### Alex Cracks

Asked what was the difference between Time and Eternity. Albert Einstein replied: "If I take the time to explain this to you, you will need an eternity to understand it."

# Good Morning



"How dare you make such a suggestion to me, Sir ! And me a great-great-grandmother ! You're a mannerless puppy, and I shall inform your father."



THIS ENGLAND. This is Polperro, Cornwall's gift to artists. And the only thing we have against Polperro is that, in the season, you have to be so careful where you put your feet down — or you may tread on a long-haired man or a short-haired woman.

## ★ GOOD NIGHT KISS FOR P.O. J. RIDDOCH



Just before the Sandman calls each night, baby Jean has an appointment with a smiling man in naval uniform.



He's in a funny boat that goes down under the water — Jean understands that. But much more important even than that is the fact that he's her Daddy.



So baby Jean kisses the smiling man every night before she is tucked up in her cot, and whispers to the picture : "Good-night, Daddy."

A modern sun-worshipper is Columbia's Evelyn Keyes, who believes in making hay-hay while the Santa Monica sun shines.



## SUN-WORSHIPPER

No. 2

This beautiful Javanese girl — another pin-up picture from the collection of our foot-loose cameraman — was born to bask in the sunshine of the South Seas.



## OUR CAT SIGNS OFF

"And this is sun-worshipper No. 3."

